

## NEWSLETTER 01.10.21

Dear parent/ carer,

Another fortnight has flown by! Today, Friday 1<sup>st</sup>, we have had the unexpected pleasure of a live recital from a String Quartet through the Devon Music Hub and as part of the Two Moors Festival. We are delighted to welcome our visiting teachers, Mr Wes Pugh (PE) and Mrs Vicki Jordan (French) to Exbourne C of E Primary. The children have enjoyed their extra provision delivered by subject specialists as well as some excellent learning across the curriculum with our teachers Miss Whiteley/ Miss Balsdon, Mr Pearson and Mr Waites. Our excellent support staff enable intervention and extra provision to happen so that all our children have the opportunity to get the best provision possible.

### **Building resilience and RESPECT**

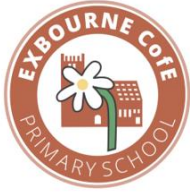
Using our co-operative value of self-help, we aim to build resilience in our whole school community. In school, we will help the children at Highampton build resilience by

- Encouraging them to express their emotions and to talk about anything that is worrying them
- Encouraging all children to ask for help with their learning when they need to
- Engaging with the children's interests and ideas
- Encouraging everyone to connect with trusted adults and peers
- Helping each other to seek help when needed and shout out if support is required

Our school focus value of **RESPECT** is now being championed by our newly appointed **VALUES CHAMPIONS** - their job will be crucial to promoting our Christian values across the school; they will be given extra responsibility across the school and in collective worship also. I would like to personally thank the children who put themselves forward to work alongside me on VALUES, PUPIL VOICE and other important jobs in school.

**Our Values Champions**  
– Mouse, Layla, Hugo,  
Ted, Camilla, Autumn,  
Sabrina and Freddie





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## HOME READING

We have much work to do post pandemic, school closures and missed teaching to build the foundations necessary in reading for our children to excel across the curriculum. Engagement in Reading at home is ESSENTIAL in order to practice the skills taught in school. Like riding a bike, we can teach the skills necessary to make confident reader's but it is the practice at home that really makes the difference. PLEASE LISTEN TO YOUR CHILD READ AT HOME so that they get the practice necessary to become more fluent and to access all areas of the curriculum. Your help is essential!



## 5 Ways to Make Reading Fun!

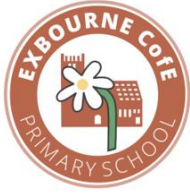
Reading should be an adventure into new worlds! Below are five ways to make reading fun for your child at home.

### 1. Create a Cosy Reading Spot

If your child has a special place to read that they think is interesting, then they will start to automatically go there when they take out a book. Reading Specialist Ryan Crawley says to allow the child to make that spot their own. "Allowing them to take ownership of that area with their own small library of books and blankets will provide them a getaway space."

### 2. Visit the Library Once a Week

The library often has little presentations every week where a guest reader comes in and reads to the kids. Once in awhile, they even put on little plays/ activities for the children. Plus, visiting the library allows your child to find books that interest them the most. Give your child time to explore what books take their interest - they will soon find books that excite them!



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### **3. Read Together**

Children will find a book much more fun to read when they are reading with their parent. A great way to share the reading duties is to have the child read one page, the parent read the next, and then keep on going from there. Make sure as a parent, model best reading practices. Use emotion and excitement in your voice and soon your child will be reading the same way.

### **4. Ask Questions**

Children like to share what they have learned. As they read, ask them questions about what is going on in the book. Ask who the main character is; question them on what is the problem in the story; have them describe the setting of the book. This shows you are taking an interest and will help their understanding of the text.

### **5. Keep a Record**

A book chart is just a simple way to keep track of what books the children have already read. They can also give an overall rating on what they thought of the book. After a while, they will start figuring out their favourite authors and what type of books they like the most.

## **After school provision**

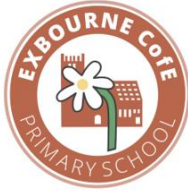
Enrichment after-school clubs are in full swing this week! If your child does start a club, we ask that they commit to the full half-term because it makes organising the club and knowing which children are supposed to be on-site very challenging if children attend on a drop in basis. Staff run clubs in their own time and so they need to know that all the children who have signed up are attending, except due to illness. Our Tag Rugby club will take place on the field when the weather permits; in the case that we are on the field, Mr Pearson will let parents know whether to pick up at the field or at school. Thank you for your support with this.

## **Community charity/ Breakfast Club**

We are rebuilding strong community connections with the generous offer of 'Breakfast Boxes' from St Bridgets. With the generosity and charity of our wider Church community and collaboration with our local community shop 'The Burrow', the school are able to provide nutritious, healthy breakfast options to more children and in turn get their day off to a great start! I would like to extend a huge thank you to Adrian Brookes, Nicky at the Burrow and everyone for making this possible.

I wish you all a restful weekend and look forward to working with you next week.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Petersen'.

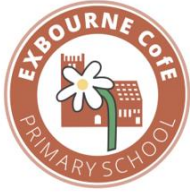


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# ACHIEVEMENT ASSEMBLY



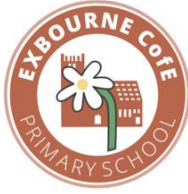
| Learner of the week   | Act of love and kindness  | Lunchtime award  |
|---|---|--|
| 20.09.2021 Class 1  | 20.09.2021 Class 1<br><b>LILLIE</b><br>for showing RESPECT and sharing nicely with her friends          | <b>FRANK</b><br>for respectful behaviour in the lunch hall or playground   |
| 20.09.2021 Class 2  | 20.09.2021 Class 2<br><b>EBONY</b><br>for always wanting to help other children and adults              |  |
| 20.09.2021 Class 3  | 20.09.2021 Class 3<br><b>OLIVER</b><br>for helping Mr Waites  |  |
| 27.09.2021 Class 1<br><b>OSCAR</b><br>for excellent focus and effort in your Maths learning | 27.09.2021 Class 1<br><b>WILLOW</b><br>for always being a lovely friend                                 | <b>MIA</b><br>for always having amazing table manners, showing respect in the hall and waiting until your plate is removed before moving onto pudding! |
| 27.09.2021 Class 2<br><b>BEN</b><br>for your engagement and perseverance in Maths           | 27.09.2021 Class 2<br><b>MICHAEL JOHN</b><br>for supporting your class mates in class and around school |  |



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### Diary dates

|   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 05 <sup>th</sup> October                            | Key Stage 2 Swimming Lessons          |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> October                            | Key Stage 2 Swimming Lessons          |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> October – 3.45pm                   | Parent Forum Meeting                  |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> October                            | Vision Screening for Reception/Year 1 |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> October                            | School Photo's                        |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> October                            | Last Swimming Lesson for Key Stage 2  |
| 25 <sup>th</sup> October - 29 <sup>th</sup> October | Half Term                             |
| 01 <sup>st</sup> November                           | All Pupils Return                     |
| 02 <sup>nd</sup> November                           | Swimming Lessons Key Stage 1          |
| 09 <sup>th</sup> November                           | Swimming Lessons Key Stage 1          |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> November                           | Swimming Lessons Key Stage 1          |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup> November                           | Swimming Lessons Key Stage 1          |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> November                           | Swimming Lessons Key Stage 1          |
| 07 <sup>th</sup> December - (Last Less              | Swimming Lessons Key Stage 1          |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> December                           | Last Day Of Term                      |



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**Rural Craft & Community Fair**  
**23rd October**  
**Okehampton College & Simmons Park**  
**10.am - 4.00pm. Entry free**

**Okehampton United Charities**  
 Funding For the Community

Okehampton College *everything* OKEHAMPTON

**FCN** THE FARMING COMMUNITY NETWORK

**Dartmoor** MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

Okehampton College is excited to be involved in the **Rural Craft & Community Fair on Saturday 23rd October 2021** which will be a showcase of the opportunities that are available to engage in within our Town.

The **Rural Craft & Community Fair** will be the coming together of our recreational, support and voluntary organisations in the Okehampton area and will be an opportunity to find out more about what goes on in the town and what you can involve yourself in, whether that is sporting clubs, art/craft clubs, recreational/voluntary groups, or you want more information about support you can receive.

**If you are a member organisation that would like to be represented at the Rural Craft & Community Fair and to take the opportunity to share what you do and recruit new members, please contact [community@dmatschools.org.uk](mailto:community@dmatschools.org.uk)**